



GROUP NEWS

August 2009

100 Year Reunion - The One Hundred Year Club

To end our year of celebration we will be holding a reunion for Scouts and Venture Scouts. This will be held on Saturday 14th November from 7-30pm at the Stag and Hounds Hall, Pinkneys Green. Any person attending will be enrolled into the exclusive **100 Year Club**. Further details will be published at a later date. Please keep this date free and inform anybody you think may be interested in attending.

For any further details contact Benny [John Brooker] Email john.brooker47@hotmail.co.uk



World Jamboree – Sweden 2011



Every 4 years the largest type of event in the international Scout calendar takes place; a Jamboree. The next one on the calendar is Sweden in 2011, and **Toby Ayre** has recently been selected as the youngest member of the UK Contingent Support Team. There were 104 applications for 34 places and the selection process included a weekend at Gilwell Park for the shortlisted 54 people, involving lots of group work exercises.

Toby will be working on the Communications sub-team in the role of “Young Person Liason” and will be attending lots of weekends in the run-up to the jamboree to ensure the 3450 Participants & Leaders (87 units) from the UK have an amazing time.

The Berkshire Unit leaders are now been selected and Scouts / Explorers born between 25th July 1993 and 27th July 1997 will be able to apply at the beginning of next year. If you're older than this and want to go, then applications for the International Service Team will open this autumn.

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BEAVER NEWS

The first week in July, the Scouts came along and showed the beavers how to put up a patrol tent, which the Beavers seemed to enjoy. The Scouts came to run the meeting and showed the boys how to put up and take down tent. It was amazing to see that we could only fit in a Patrol tents. There was also plenty of time for a few games as well. Another meeting outside was held to allow the boys to have a go with cooking on an open fire. We walked down to the woods where Benny had already built a fire, we all crowded round in the very hot atmosphere around the fire to cook sausages and marshmallows. This activity proved very popular, the experience of cooking using only natural materials was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The last meeting of the Summer Term, the Beavers sang campfire songs around the campfire.



We are please that leaders, **Hawkeye & Rikki** are back to help at Beaver meetings

The Beaver section will not be meeting during August, but we hope you all enjoy the break and enjoy the summer holidays!

First meeting of the Autumn term is **Monday 6th September, 6pm**, at Scout Hall

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CUB NEWS



During the last few weeks of the Summer Term, all boys took turns at Tent Pitching, Fire Lighting/Cooking, Trails, Nature Identification and an Environmental Challenge. We were quite lucky with the weather and managed to run the sessions outside most evenings, only once getting damp!

We also had a ‘farewell’ party to **Akela (Rob Harris)** who is retiring as Akela after over 10 years of service due to work commitments, **Rob** will now be taking on the role of **Bagheera**. The meeting consisted of a games evening both inside and outside including a parachute activity run by the young leaders outside, the cubs presented **Akela** with a thank you card after a closing ceremony at the end of the meeting.

Our last evening was shelter building in the woods – an activity thoroughly enjoyed by Cubs and Leaders alike. There were less Cubs that night but we still managed to build some great shelters. (One group built one tall enough for Panda to fit in!).

Cubs will not be meeting over the summer holiday. We will see you again on Wednesday 2nd September, ready for Cub Camp on Friday 4th September.

Don't forget Cub Camp on 4th-6th September - Please return your forms to Jakala

Rikki (Lesley Curley)

SCOUT NEWS

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

As normal, Scouts will continue to meet during the School Summer Holidays. We hope to be arranging some activities - Friday evening 6.50pm - 9.15pm -. Don't forget to check your emails on a Thursday – for any changes

Uniform is not to be worn during August, Activity Dress is (PG Tee Shirt, plain shorts and old trainers) don't forget to bring a coat, if it looks wet.

SUMMER CAMP – Tregate Castle

Forty plus, members of the Troop Survived two weeks at Monmouth, despite the days of heavy rain, we had. It was one of the wettest camps we have had, with most mud I had ever seen. The HQ area flooded a few times, we dug a sump hole and bailed out the water, which left the area rather muddy. The area where the Scouts were camping was well drain, and I am sure the weather did not bother the Scouts too much.'

A big thank you goes to the David & Mary Hopson for allowing us to camp on their land. We first camped here in 1979, (total of six times over thirty years, inc. 1993 when we had nine patrols) and this was the first time we had problems with MUD



We managed to, despite the mud, to update the PG web site www.pgscouts.org.uk nearly every day we were at camp, with photos of the activities and events we did.

The Scouts were camping in patrols, the activities; include a visit to Kayaking on river Wye, 24 hour back packing hike, Climbing & abseiling, caving, visit to local town, Cooking Competition, where they cooked a three course cordon blur three course meal for 7 people with a £16 budget, visited local sports centre as traditional Scout training and games. The Scouts were working in patrol of 6-7 Scouts and cooked their meals on a wood fire, including full English breakfast and things like chilli, sweet and sour chicken, stir fry and stews.

The worst day at camp was the day we packed up, we had torrential rain, we had arranged for a local farmer with his tractor to move the gear up the hill to where the lorries were parked. We had to hose the Scouts down before we could let them go in to the mini buses. When we got back to Maidenhead, the water & mud ran out the back of the lorries

Congratulations go to Panthers - PL Nick Green on winning the Cooking competition.

I would like to thank Alan. Hoskins for driving the lorries to / from Camp. **Simon Hemsley** for driving the second lorry back from camp. **Andy Jones** for driving down to camp with a car of Scouts and loading unloading lorry 5 times, **Dave Chesterman** (District President) for coming down to Monmouth, to judge the Scouts Cooking Competition. **Jo Belston** for picking up a car full of Scouts at end of camp *All the parents and friend for helping with photocopying & binding the camp booklet and supplying various items for Camp.* I would also like to thank all the other parents and friends who helped us this year with donations and time.

A Special thank you goes to the following leaders and helpers, who camped for the whole Camp; **John Bannerman, BoB Weingarh, Robert Stroud and Mark Courtier** plus the leaders and helpers **Chris Parker, Rob Ayre, Michael Crown, Matt Weingarh, Alex Robins, Nicolette Smith and Phillip Page** who were able to help for part of the camp. *Can we thank them all for taking time off work etc. and helping for all or part of the camp and surviving this year's camp.*

Simon Wheeler, Scout Leader, August 2009

District Water Activities

This year 20 PG Scouts enjoyed the District Water Activity Event, they joined Scouts from all over Maidenhead for an activity pack event. They did water activities like canoeing, rafting, sailing, gig pulling dragon boating as well. Thanks goes to **Rob Ayre** and **John Boothman** for helping with the Canoeing, **Nic Jones** for helping with the water activities, **Alex Jones** for helping with the climbing. and **Simon** for all his hard work

Beaver Meeting

A big thank you goes to the eleven Scouts and Young leaders who helped run a special Beaver meeting in July. The programme was for the Beavers to help pitch Patrol tents, between showers of rain, before Simon told them a story about camping. The Scouts also organised some games.

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